

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD



REGION 12 201 E Kennedy Blvd Ste 530 Tampa, FL 33602-5824 Agency Website: www.nlrb.gov Telephone: (813)228-2641 Fax: (813)228-2874 Download NLRB Mobile App

March 16, 2023

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Party City
1 Celebration Square
Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677

Re: Party City

Case 12-CA-314150

Dear (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Enclosed is a copy of a charge that has been filed in this case. This letter tells you how to contact the Board agent who will be investigating the charge, explains your right to be represented, discusses presenting your evidence, and provides a brief explanation of our procedures, including how to submit documents to the NLRB.

<u>Investigator</u>: This charge is being investigated by Field Attorney Dallas Manuel whose telephone number is (813) 228-2669. If this Board agent is not available, you may contact Supervisory Field Examiner Chastity Pabon-Lockley whose telephone number is (813) 228-2470.

<u>Right to Representation</u>: You have the right to be represented by an attorney or other representative in any proceeding before us. If you choose to be represented, your representative must notify us in writing of this fact as soon as possible by completing *Form NLRB-4701*, *Notice of Appearance*. This form is available on our website, www.nlrb.gov, or from an NLRB office upon your request.

If you are contacted by someone about representing you in this case, please be assured that no organization or person seeking your business has any "inside knowledge" or favored relationship with the National Labor Relations Board. Their knowledge regarding this proceeding was only obtained through access to information that must be made available to any member of the public under the Freedom of Information Act.

<u>Presentation of Your Evidence</u>: We seek prompt resolutions of labor disputes. Therefore, I urge you or your representative to submit a complete written account of the facts and a statement of your position with respect to the allegations set forth in the charge as soon as possible. If the Board agent later asks for more evidence, I strongly urge you or your representative to cooperate fully by promptly presenting all evidence relevant to the investigation. In this way, the case can be fully investigated more quickly.

Full and complete cooperation includes providing witnesses to give sworn affidavits to a Board agent, and providing all relevant documentary evidence requested by the Board agent. Sending us your written account of the facts and a statement of your position is not enough to be considered full and complete cooperation. A refusal to fully cooperate during the investigation might cause a case to be litigated unnecessarily.

In addition, either you or your representative must complete the enclosed Commerce Questionnaire to enable us to determine whether the NLRB has jurisdiction over this dispute. If you recently submitted this information in another case, or if you need assistance completing the form, please contact the Board agent.

We will not honor requests to limit our use of position statements or evidence. Specifically, any material you submit may be introduced as evidence at a hearing before an administrative law judge regardless of claims of confidentiality. However, certain evidence produced at a hearing may be protected from public disclosure by demonstrated claims of confidentiality.

Further, the Freedom of Information Act may require that we disclose position statements or evidence in closed cases upon request, unless an exemption applies, such as those protecting confidential financial information or personal privacy interests.

<u>Preservation of all Potential Evidence:</u> Please be mindful of your obligation to preserve all relevant documents and electronically stored information (ESI) in this case, and to take all steps necessary to avoid the inadvertent loss of information in your possession, custody or control. Relevant information includes, but is not limited to, paper documents and all ESI (e.g. SMS text messages, electronic documents, emails, and any data created by proprietary software tools) related to the above-captioned case.

<u>Prohibition on Recording Affidavit Interviews:</u> It is the policy of the General Counsel to prohibit affiants from recording the interview conducted by Board agents when subscribing Agency affidavits. Such recordings may impede the Agency's ability to safeguard the confidentiality of the affidavit itself, protect the privacy of the affiant and potentially compromise the integrity of the Region's investigation.

<u>Correspondence:</u> All documents submitted to the Region regarding your case MUST be filed through the Agency's website, <u>www.nlrb.gov</u>. This includes all formal pleadings, briefs, as well as affidavits, documentary evidence, and position statements. The Agency requests all evidence submitted electronically to be in the form it is normally used and maintained in the course of business (i.e., native format). Where evidence submitted electronically is not in native format, it should be submitted in a manner that retains the essential functionality of the native format (i.e., in a machine-readable and searchable electronic format).

If you have questions about the submission of evidence or expect to deliver a large quantity of electronic records, please promptly contact the Board agent investigating the charge. If you cannot e-file your documents, you must provide a statement explaining why you do not

have access to the means for filing electronically or why filing electronically would impose an undue burden.

In addition, this Region will be issuing case-related correspondence and documents, including complaints, compliance specifications, dismissal letters, deferral letters, and withdrawal letters, electronically to the email address you provide. To ensure that you receive important case-related correspondence, please ensure that the Board Agent assigned to your case has your preferred email address. These steps will ensure that you receive correspondence faster and at a significantly lower cost to the taxpayer. If there is some reason you are unable to receive correspondence via email, please contact the agent assigned to your case to discuss the circumstances that prevent you from using email.

<u>Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)</u>: This National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) proceeding may contain Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI). Subsequent information in this proceeding may also constitute CUI. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) regulations at 32 CFR Part 2002 apply to all executive branch agencies that designate or handle information that meets the standards for CUI.

* * *

Information about the Agency, the procedures we follow in unfair labor practice cases and our customer service standards is available on our website, www.nlrb.gov or from an NLRB office upon your request. NLRB Form 4541, Investigative Procedures offers information that is helpful to parties involved in an investigation of an unfair labor practice charge.

We can provide assistance for persons with limited English proficiency or disability. Please let us know if you or any of your witnesses would like such assistance.

Very truly yours,

David Cohen

DAVID COHEN Regional Director

Enclosures:

- 1. Copy of Charge
- 2. Commerce Questionnaire

		AL LAB	OR RELATIONS BOARD						
	QUESTIONNAIRE ON COMMERCE INFORMATION								
Plea	se read carefully, answer all applicable items, and return to the NL	.RB Office	e. If additional space is required, ple	ease add a pac	ge and ide	entify item nun	nber.		
						UMBER			
					12-CA-3	14150			
1. 1	1. EXACT LEGAL TITLE OF ENTITY (As filed with State and/or stated in legal documents forming entity)								
2. TYPE OF ENTITY									
[] CORPORATION [] LLC [] LLP [] PARTNERSHIP [] SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP [] OTHER (Specify)									
3. IF A CORPORATION or LLC									
A. S	TATE OF INCORPORATION B. NAME	E, ADDRI	ESS, AND RELATIONSHIP (e.g.	parent, subsid	diary) OF	ALL RELAT	TED ENT	TTIES	
(R FORMATION								
4	4. IF AN LLC OR ANY TYPE OF PARTNERSHIP, FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF ALL MEMBERS OR PARTNERS								
4. If AN ELC OR ANT TITE OF TARTHERSHIT, FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF ALL MEMBERS OF TARTHERS									
5. IF A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF PROPRIETOR									
6. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE NATURE OF YOUR OPERATIONS (Products handled or manufactured, or nature of services performed).									
7A.	PRINCIPAL LOCATION:	7B.	BRANCH LOCATIONS:						
8. NUMBER OF PEOPLE PRESENTLY EMPLOYED									
A. TOTAL: B. AT THE ADDRESS INVOLVED IN THIS MATTER:									
9.	9. DURING THE MOST RECENT (Check the appropriate box): [] CALENDAR [] 12 MONTHS or [] FISCAL YEAR (FY DATES)								
						YES		NO	
A.	Did you provide services valued in excess of \$50,000 directly to \$	o custome	ers outside your State? If no, indic	ate actual val	ue.				
B. If you answered no to 9A, did you provide services valued in excess of \$50,000 to customers in your State who purchased									
	goods valued in excess of \$50,000 from directly outside your State? If no, indicate the value of any such services you								
C	provided. \$								
C.	C. If you answered no to 9A and 9B, did you provide services valued in excess of \$50,000 to public utilities, transit systems, newspapers, health care institutions, broadcasting stations, commercial buildings, educational institutions, or retail concerns?								
	If less than \$50,000, indicate amount. \$								
D.	D. Did you sell goods valued in excess of \$50,000 directly to customers located outside your State? If less than \$50,000, indicate amount. \$								
E.	If you answered no to 9D, did you sell goods valued in excess of	f\$50.000	directly to customers located insid	le vour State v	who		-		
	purchased other goods valued in excess of \$50,000 from directly outside your State? If less than \$50,000, indicate amount.								
	\$								
F.	F. Did you purchase and receive goods valued in excess of \$50,000 from directly outside your State? If less than \$50,000,								
G	G. Did you purchase and receive goods valued in excess of \$50,000 from enterprises who received the goods directly from								
J.	points outside your State? If less than \$50,000, indicate amount. \$								
H.	Gross Revenues from all sales or performance of services (Ch		largest amount)		1				
	[] \$100,000 [] \$250,000 [] \$500,000 [] \$1,000,00	00 or mor	re If less than \$100,000, indicate	amount.	,				
I.	Did you begin operations within the last 12 months? If yes	s, specify	y date:						
10.	10. ARE YOU A MEMBER OF AN ASSOCIATION OR OTHER EMPLOYER GROUP THAT ENGAGES IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING?								

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

[] YES [] NO (If yes, name and address of association or group).

12. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME

NAME AND TITLE (Type or Print)

11. REPRESENTATIVE BEST QUALIFIED TO GIVE FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR OPERATIONS

SIGNATURE

TITLE

Solicitation of the information on this form is authorized by the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), 29 U.S.C. § 151 et seq. The principal use of the information is to assist the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) in processing representation and/or unfair labor practice proceedings and related proceedings or litigation. The routine uses for the information are fully set forth in the Federal Register, 71 Fed. Reg. 74942-43 (Dec. 13, 2006). The NLRB will further explain these uses upon request. Disclosure of this information to the NLRB is voluntary. However, failure to supply the information may cause the NLRB to refuse to process any further a representation or unfair labor practice case, or may cause the NLRB to issue you a subpoena and seek enforcement of the subpoena in federal court.

E-MAIL ADDRESS

E-MAIL ADDRESS

TEL. NUMBER

DATE

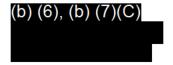


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<u>Presentation of Your Evidence</u>: As the party who filed the charge in this case, it is your responsibility to meet with the Board agent to provide a sworn affidavit, or provide other witnesses to provide sworn affidavits, and to provide relevant documents within your possession. Because we seek to resolve labor disputes promptly, you should be ready to promptly present your affidavit(s) and other evidence. If you have not yet scheduled a date and time for the Board agent to take your affidavit, please contact the Board agent to schedule the affidavit(s). If you fail to cooperate in promptly presenting your evidence, your charge may be dismissed without investigation.

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Very truly yours,

David Cohen

DAVID COHEN Regional Director

Enclosure

1. Important Information About NLRB Investigations for Immigrant Workers (English & Spanish)



Important Information About NLRB Investigations for Immigrant Workers



The National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) protects most private-sector employees, <u>regardless</u> of their immigration status. The NLRA gives employees the right to:

- Form, join, or assist a union to negotiate concerning wages and other working conditions.
- Discuss wages and other working conditions with coworkers, a union, a worker center, a government agency, the media, or the public.
- Take collective action with coworkers to try to improve wages and other working conditions.
- Choose not to take part in any of these actions.

Below is important information for you to know about our confidential investigation process:

- Because immigration status is not relevant as to whether there has been a violation of the NLRA:
 - We will **NOT** ask you about your immigration status.
 - You **DO NOT** need to share any information with us about your immigration status.
 - You DO NOT need to share information about the status of your current/former coworkers.
- We only enforce the NLRA and have NO involvement with the enforcement of immigration laws.
- We will NOT share any information about you with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), including Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or any other immigration authorities, unless you request that we share your information to assist you with seeking immigration relief, as described in the last bulleted point of this document.
- If you have concerns about appearing at our offices for any reason, please speak with the Board Agent assigned to the case about other methods of participating in the investigation, including taking your affidavit outside of our office or by video.
- Our investigations are confidential, which means that we will NOT disclose your affidavit to an employer, unless you testify at a trial, or we seek a federal court injunction.
- If you are not comfortable communicating with us in English, we will make an interpreter available to provide assistance and information in your preferred language.
- If you are aware that an employer or union has engaged in any of the following conduct, please tell the Board Agent about it because it may violate the law:
 - Threatening to call DHS or ICE or making other similar threats because you or other employees have engaged in union activity or other collective action to improve working conditions.

- Asking employees to provide new or updated immigration documents/papers or reverifying employees' work authorization without a valid, non-discriminatory reason, which could violate the NLRA or other laws.
- If, at the end of the investigation, we determine there is merit to the charge (the employer or union has violated the law) and we have to litigate the case before an Administrative Law Judge, we will make every effort to prevent the employer or union from asking you about your immigration status.
- If you have filed a charge or are a witness and you or your representative tells us that there is NLRA protected activity at a worksite and immigration relief is necessary to protect employees who are exercising those rights or participating in the NLRB process, the NLRB will consider seeking immigration relief for employees at that worksite including deferred action, parole, U or T visa status, or other relief as available and appropriate. The NLRB cannot provide immigration advice. If you need immigration counsel, a list of providers of free legal services is available here: https://www.justice.gov/eoir/list-pro-bono-legal-service-providers.

For more information on the NLRB, please visit our website, www.nlrb.gov.



Información Importante Acerca de las Investigaciones de la NLRB para los Trabajadores Inmigrantes



La Ley Nacional de Relaciones del Trabajo (NLRA por sus siglas en inglés) protege a la mayoría de los empleados del sector privado, <u>independientemente</u> de su estatus migratorio. La NLRA les da a los empleados el derecho a:

- Formar, afiliarse o ayudar a una unión para negociar sobre los salarios y otras condiciones de trabajo.
- Discutir los salarios y otras condiciones de trabajo con los compañeros de trabajo, una unión, un centro de trabajadores, una agencia gubernamental, los medios de comunicación o el público.
- ➤ Tomar acciones colectivas con los compañeros de trabajo para tratar de mejorar los salarios y otras condiciones de trabajo.
- Optar por no participar en ninguna de estas acciones.

A continuación, le presentamos información importante que debe conocer acerca de nuestro proceso de investigación confidencial:

- Porque el estatus migratorio no es pertinente si ha habido una violación de la NLRA:
 - O Nosotros NO le preguntaremos sobre su estatus migratorio.
 - Usted NO NECESITA compartir ninguna información con nosotros acerca de su estatus migratorio.
 - Usted NO NECESITA compartir ninguna información sobre el estatus [migratorio] de sus actuales/antiguos compañeros de trabajo.
- Sólo hacemos cumplir la NLRA y **NO** estamos involucrados en el cumplimiento de las leyes de inmigración.
- NO compartimos ninguna información sobre usted con el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional (DHS por sus siglas en inglés), incluyendo el Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE por sus siglas en inglés) o cualquier otra autoridad de inmigración, a menos que usted solicite que compartamos su información para ayudarle a buscar alivio migratorio, como se describe en el último punto de este documento.
- Si tiene preocupaciones acerca de presentarse en nuestras oficinas por cualquier razón, por favor hable con el agente de la Junta asignado al caso sobre otras maneras de participar en la investigación, incluyendo tomar su declaración jurada fuera de nuestra oficina o por video.
- Nuestras investigaciones son confidenciales, lo que significa que NO divulgaremos su
 declaración jurada a un empleador, a menos que usted testifique en un juicio, o que
 busquemos un mandato judicial federal.
- Si no está cómodo/a comunicándose con nosotros en inglés, tendremos un intérprete disponible para proporcionarle asistencia e información en su idioma predilecto.

- Si usted sabe que un empleador o unión ha incurrido en alguna de las siguientes conductas, por favor infórmele al agente de la Junta ya que puede violar la ley:
 - Amenazar con llamar al DHS o al ICE o hacer otras amenazas similares porque usted u otros empleados han participado en actividades sindicales u otras acciones colectivas para mejorar las condiciones de trabajo.
 - Pedir a los empleados que proporcionen documentos/papeles de inmigración nuevos o actualizados o volver a verificar la autorización de trabajo de los empleados sin una razón válida y no discriminatoria, que podría violar la NLRA u otras leyes.
- Si, al final de la investigación, determinamos que el cargo tiene mérito (el empleador o la unión han violado la ley) y tenemos que litigar el caso frente a un Juez de Ley Administrativa, haremos todo lo posible para evitar que el empleador o la unión le pregunten sobre su estatus migratorio.
- Si usted ha presentado un cargo o es un testigo y usted o su representante nos dice que se hay una actividad protegida por la NLRA en un lugar de trabajo y que es necesario un alivio migratorio para proteger a los empleados que están ejerciendo esos derechos o participando en el proceso de la Junta Nacional de Relaciones del Trabajo (NLRB por sus siglas en ingles), la NLRB considerará la posibilidad de buscar un alivio migratorio para los empleados en ese lugar de trabajo, incluyendo la acción diferida, la libertad condicional, visas U o T u otro alivio en la medida en que esté disponible y sea apropiado. La NLRB no puede proporcionar asesoramiento de inmigración. Si necesita asesoramiento de inmigración, una lista de proveedores de servicios legales sin costo se encuentra disponible aquí (en inglés): https://www.justice.gov/eoir/list-pro-bono-legal-service-providers.

Para más información acerca de la NLRB, por favor visite nuestra página web, www.nlrb.gov.